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COMMERCE FOR 3131/ITA/USFCS/ANESA/OIO/RD

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [BEXPASECBMGTOTRASFIKZU](#) [COUNTRY](#) [CLEARANCE](#)

SUBJECT: CORRECTED COPY- Country Clearance for Commercial Officer  
Mitch Larsen

REF: USDOC 4365

1. Embassy Kuwait welcomes and hereby grants country clearance for  
Commercial Officer Mitch Larsen to travel to Kuwait from August 17  
to August 19, 2006.

2. CORRECTION: Embassy point of contact is:

Irma La Pore  
Office- 965/259-1001 x 1468  
Direct - 965/259-1468  
Cell - 965/936-9905  
Fax - 965/259-1271  
Unclassified E-Mail: [irma.lapore@mail.doc.gov](mailto:irma.lapore@mail.doc.gov)

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3. CORRECTION: Traveler has booked billeting and milair to Baghdad  
via the Federal Deployment Center (FDC) at the Hilton. Upon arrival,  
traveler should go the FDC/KBR office at the commercial airport,  
located outside the side door of the arrivals hall (adjacent to the  
grocery store). He can then catch the shuttle to the FDC at the  
Hilton.

4. Following is post's standard guidance for visitors to  
Kuwait: Kuwait now issues single-entry visas to American citizens  
on arrival, upon presentation of a passport. There is a processing  
fee of 2 KD for each visa issued. The fee may be paid either in KD  
or USD (approximately 7 USD). Post strongly advises travelers to  
carry some documentation on the purpose of their visit. Passengers  
arriving on other than commercial flights should anticipate extra  
delays, because immigration services are not available on the  
military side of the airfield and passports have to be carried to a  
different site at the airport for processing. Airport visas are  
valid for 90 days after arrival; anyone staying beyond this period  
must obtain an extension, which should be requested 2 weeks prior to  
expiration. Anyone departing Kuwait who has overstayed the visa  
will be charged a fine of KD 10 (US\$33.50) per day at the airport.  
All travelers planning to visit Iraq should make sure that they  
obtain exit/entry stamps for each transit through Kuwait, and be  
aware that they will need to obtain a new Kuwaiti visa upon return,  
even after a daytrip to Baghdad. Failure to do so can result in  
heavy fines. If possible, travelers should try to obtain a  
multiple-entry visa before arriving in Kuwait.

5. Visitors are reminded that the importation of alcohol, pork  
products, personal firearms, and any suggestive/pornographic  
materials (videotapes, magazines or books) is strictly prohibited by  
Kuwaiti law. Kuwait is still clearing mines and munitions. Visitors  
must remain on major paved roads when traveling in Kuwait. Travel  
North of Jahra toward the Iraqi-Kuwaiti border is not authorized  
without approval from the embassy and an appropriate escort.

¶6. Threat Assessment: Kuwait is a high-threat post and the military threatcon is currently Charlie. We have increased security precautions at official U.S. installations in Kuwait and recommend that all Americans in Kuwait remain alert to their surroundings and review their personal security practices.

¶7. Fiscal Data (action request): Each visitor to Embassy Kuwait must bring or forward fiscal data to cover costs incurred during the visit. Each agency, organization, delegation or visiting individual will be charged for all costs attributed to their visit. These costs include, but not limited to: LES and American staff overtime, vehicle and equipment rental, office and medical supplies, telephone calls, expeditor services, airport transportation and other mileage driven, and representational events. If fiscal data on visitor's travel authorization is to be used for this purpose, it must be clearly spelled out and sufficient funding must be provided.

¶8. Health Unit: All TDY or PCS personnel that would like to be vaccinated against smallpox should get the vaccine in M/MED in Washington before coming to post. The smallpox vaccine for pre-exposure vaccination is not available at post. There are prepositioned doses of smallpox vaccine at post to be used only if an actual exposure occurs. The smallpox vaccine is being offered to personnel that are coming to work at Embassy Kuwait as a strictly voluntary protection in case of a possible biological attack.

¶9. Health Advisory for Kuwait: April through October is the hot season in Kuwait. Temperatures reach 120°-140°F in summer. Caution should be taken to prevent dehydration and heat exhaustion by 1) drinking plenty of fluids and 2) staying indoors, especially during peak temperature hours of 12:00-15:00. Low humidity coupled with high temperatures creates excessive moisture loss from evaporation. It is necessary to drink 2-4 quarts of water daily to prevent dehydration.

Visitors in November through March can expect cold winds and at times heavy rains. Light winter clothing is suitable for Kuwait. At

this time allergies and colds are more common. Persons traveling to the area are advised to have over-the-counter medications, such as Tylenol, Ibuprofen, cold and cough medications with them for self-treatment.

¶10. Health Advisory for Iraq: Remember to bring adequate medications and to be current on vaccines as getting medical supplies in Iraq has been difficult. Consistent with US military policy since January 2005, and having no cases of malaria reported to date in US Embassy personnel, malaria prophylaxis is not routinely recommended for Iraq. Vivax malaria historically exists in the northern provinces of Duhok, Erbil, Ninawa, Sulaimaniya, Tamim (May-October), and in the south around Basrah (April-November). There is no risk in Baghdad. Individuals that travel to those areas need to continue to check current embassy recommendations. Malaria must be a consideration in anyone with a fever who has traveled to those areas. To protect against insect bites, use insect repellants, long clothing and other measures to prevent insect bites.

¶11. CAA Access: Visitors who need unescorted access into secure areas of the mission must slug cables to the attention of the RSO, and include the level of their clearance. The cable should include Social Security Number, and the name of the agency granting the clearance. Cables should include the ASEC tag to ensure distribution to the RSO office and the Marine Security guard at post one.

¶12. Computer and Electronics usage: Sensitive military has been located recently on business center computers at local hotels in Kuwait City. All U.S. Government personnel and contractors must remember that it is their responsibility to observe good computer and information security practices. Information processed on computers in hotel business centers, through email correspondence or document creation, is highly exploitable. Public computers located in hotel business centers, Internet cafes, airport lounges, etc. should never be used to process, store or disseminate sensitive information. Compromise of sensitive government or military information can result in serious damage to national security.

Compromises of sensitive personal data can result in significant personal and financial hardship. Random checks are conducted by Embassy personnel on public PC's. Breaches on COMPUSEC will result in the violator receiving security infractions and/or security violations. Inter-agency security standards prohibit the introduction or use of non-USG owned computer hardware and software at all USG diplomatic facilities. Cell phones, palm pilots, radios and other convenience electronics are prohibited in all secure areas of the mission.

¶13. Embassy Kuwait's normal workweek is Saturday through Wednesday. Office hours are 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. switchboard number is (965) 259-1001, IVG: 4950000. The after hours number which rings at Marine Guard post one is (965) 538-2098.

¶14. The time difference with the East Coast of the United States is EDT plus 7 hours.

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